

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1, 3, 7 and 9 and leaves claims 2, 4-6 and 8 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1-9.

Applicants' Attorney, the undersigned, and Applicants' Japanese Representative Ms. Haruka Suzuki wish to thank Examiner Christopher Onuaku and Supervisory Patent Examiner Thai Tran for the courtesy extended during the interview of January 28, 2004.

During the interview, it was agreed that the features of the present invention as recited in the proposed amended claims 1-9 presented during the interview are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Berstis (U.S. Patent No. 56,212,327), whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record. The proposed amended claims 1-9 presented during the interview are incorporated in the present amendment.

It was further agreed during the interview that upon the filing of the present amendment incorporating the proposed amended claims 1-9 presented during the interview, Examiner Onuaku would consider the merits of the response with the result being reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §102(e) rejection of claims 1-9 as being anticipated by Berstis and the possible allowance of the application after conducting an update search.

As discussed during the interview Berstis teaches the use of a user interface as illustrated in Fig. 3 for program controlling a record/playback device. As taught by Berstis the user interface 300 allows for the input of data including an indication of a device, date, action (record, play, etc.), channel, start time, end time, duration and

keywords for use in automatically recording broadcasts. However, Berstis fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in the claims.

According to the present invention as recited in the claims keywords preliminarily designated by the user are stored in association with reservation identifiers, programs are automatically selected based on program information and the keywords, the selected programs are stored in association with the reservation identifiers, and the selected programs stored in association with the reservation identifiers are displayed in response to user input. These features of the present invention as recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Berstis.

Thus, based on the above, and as agreed during the interview, the features of the present invention as recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Berstis, whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record. Therefore, as agreed the 35 USC §102(e) rejection of the claims should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-9 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of the present application based on claims 1-9 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.37971X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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